

THE SOUTHERNER is one of the oldest and largest journals in North Carolina, and as one of the institutions of the country, and the organ of Edgecombe County, its conductors will strive to direct it in the interest of the State and Country at large, and they will spare no pains to make it a fit representative of the section from which it emanates.
The subscription price is Three Dollars a year, Two Dollars for Six Months, and must be paid IN ADVANCE. Money may in all cases be sent by mail, at the risk of the Publishers.

The Tarboro' Southerner

"I Am a Southern Man, of Southern Principles."—JEFFERSON DAVIS.

VOLUME XLIV.

TARBORO', EDGECOMBE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1863.

NUMBER 6.

PROFESSIONAL.

L. D. PENDER
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
TARBORO', N. C.
OFFICE, one door below Post Office, and one above the store of D. Pender & Co. All business intrusted to my care will be promptly and strictly attended to.
Sept. 23, 1860. 12-4t

GILBERT ELLIOTT,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Office No. 24 West Main Street,
Norfolk, Va.
Messrs. Dancy, Hyman & Co., New York.
Messrs. C. W. Grandy & Sons, Norfolk.
Hon. W. A. Graham, Hillsboro', N. C.
Hon. W. N. H. Smith, Murfreesboro', N. C.
Aug. 29. 30-4t

BIGGS & MOORE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
TARBORO', N. C.
WILL attend the Courts in the Counties of Martin, Bertie, Pitt, Edgecombe, Halifax, Nash, Wilson and Wayne, and also the Federal, Bankrupt and Supreme Courts. Strict attention paid to the collection and adjustment of claims, and to cases in Bankruptcy.
August 1, 1867. 33-4t

DR. R. F. ROBERTSON,
DENTIST,
TARBORO', N. C.
Office at the Edgecombe House, where he can be found on Monday and Tuesday of each week.
May 2, 1867. 22-4t

NOTICE.
A. E. RICKS, D. D. L., would respectfully say to the Citizens of Tarboro' and its vicinity, that he is again in the practice of his Profession—and will in the future as in the past—endeavor to discharge his duty faithfully for all those who require his service.
Address, Rocky Mount, N. C.
Feb. 3, 1866. 10-4t

NEW YORK.
DANCY, HYMAN & CO.,
General Commission Merchants,
No. 24 Exchange Place,
NEW YORK.
September 26th 1857. 32-4t

W. H. BRUCE & CO.,
COTTON FACTORS,
23 Chambers and 5 Reade Streets,
NEW YORK.
SPECIAL ATTENTION PAID TO THE sale of Cotton in this Market, on which liberal advances will be made, and TAX PAID on application to R. Chapman.
Sept. 19. 41-4t

R. J. CONNER & CO.,
Manufacturers and Dealers in
Hats, Caps, Furs, Straw Goods,
254 & 256 CANAL STREET,
NEW YORK.
July 28 35-4t

JOHN K. HOYT,
of Washington, N. C., with
CHICHESTER & CO.,
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
Foreign and Domestic Hardware,
No. 10, Barclay Street, near Astor House,
New York.
All orders promptly attended to.
Feb. 10 41-4t

HATCH, ESTES & CO.,
General Commission Merchants,
No. 122 Front Street, Corner of Pine
NEW YORK.
CONSIGNMENTS OF COTTON AND
Naval Stores solicited.
Local advances made and all orders
promptly executed.
Oct. 10. 44-4t

Tannahill, Melville & Co.,
Commission Merchants,
130 Pearl Street,
NEW YORK.
Strict Personal Attention given to
COTTON.

WEST ROLL AND GUNNY BAG-
ging, Rope and Iron furnished at
lowest Market Prices.
Messrs. D. Pender & Co., and Messrs. W. A. Graham, Hillsboro', N. C.
Messrs. C. J. E. Lindsey, Rocky Mount, N. C.
Messrs. G. H. Brown & Co., Washington, N. C.
Aug. 29. 39-4t

A. T. BRUCE & CO.,
COTTON FACTORS,
AND
General Commission Merchants,
for the Sale of Cotton and other
Southern Produce.
No. 166 PEARL STREET,
NEW YORK.

ARTIES Shipping Cotton to us can be
accommodated with funds to pay Tax
on the same, on Messrs. Brown & Phippen or
H. D. Teal, Tarboro'.

LUMBER FOR SALE.
AM NOW PREPARED TO FURNISH
Lumber of all kinds to those
who may wish to purchase.
Messrs. A. T. Bruce & Co., are our authorized
agents, and are ready to fill orders
themselves.
ELBERT FELTON,
Tarboro', Oct. 24. 40-4t

NOTICE! ACTION!
On Saturday of each week, I will
hold an Auction—in Front of the Court
house—desiring property of any
kind to be sold on me. As no
other will call on me, I will
be glad to obtain the highest
price for the property.

NORFOLK.

NOTICE.
JOHN WHITE, ESQ., FORMERLY
of Warrenton, N. C., is this day admitted
a partner in our business, the style of the
firm to be
FREEER, NEAL & CO.
October 9. 41-4t

FREEER, NEAL & CO.,
COTTON FACTORS,
AND
General Commission Merchants,
Norfolk, Va.
Retro to R. H. Smith, Esq., Scotland Neck;
Hon. J. V. Vance, Charlotte; O. G. Farley &
Co., Murray & Co., Wilmington; General
R. W. Hayward, Raleigh; General Wade
Hampton, South Carolina; Colonel John W.
Cunningham, Person county; Turner Battle,
Esq., Edgecombe; Exchange National Bank
of Norfolk; George H. Brown & Co., Wash-
ington.
Oct. 9. 41-4t

RICKS, HILL & CO.,
COTTON AND
Gen. Commission Merchants
NORFOLK, VA.
BAGGING AND ROPE furnished—pay-
able in Cotton. Liberal advances
made.
sep 14-4t

JAMES GORDON & CO.,
Commission Merchants,
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.
PROMPT PERSONAL ATTENTION
given to the sale of Produce of every
kind, and to the purchase of all supplies
for Farmers, Merchants, and others in the
country.
nov 29. 1-4t

C. W. GRANDY & SONS,
FACTORS,
FORWARDING AND COMMISSION
MERCHANTS,
McIntosh's Wharf,
NORFOLK, VA.
FOR THE SALE OF COTTON,
Grain, Naval Stores and Country Pro-
duce, General Agents and Purchasers of General
Merchandise.
Sept 15. 42-4t

COWARD & HARRISS,
General Commission Merchants,
26 Commerce Street,
NORFOLK, VA.
WILL attend promptly to sales of Cot-
ton, Grain, Lumber, Tobacco, Naval
Stores, &c., and purchase of Supplies,
and forwarding Cotton and Tobacco to Eu-
rope if desired.
D. G. COWARD, Washington Co., N. C.
R. J. HARRISS, Greenville, S. C. (long 1-35-6m)
Refers to T. E. Lewis, Tarboro'.

J. D. REED, AGT.,
PRACTICAL HATTER,
Wholesale and Retail Dealer in
Hats, Caps, Straw Goods,
Umbrellas, Canes, &c.,
No. 18 Main Street,
NORFOLK, VA.
ap. 18. 20-4t

L. B. BERRY, MILLAR & CO.,
Wholesale Dealers in
Dry Goods & Notions,
16 West Main Street,
Next door to Exchange National Bank
NORFOLK, VA.
mar. 28. 16-4t

J. M. FREEMAN,
Watchmaker and Jeweler,
NO. 29 MAIN STREET,
Corner of Talbot Street,
NORFOLK, VA.
CONSTANTLY ON HAND A FULL
assortment of Watches, Jewelry, Sil-
verware, &c.
Watches carefully and properly Re-
paired.
apr. 4. 18-4t

L. L. BRICKHOUSE & CO.,
Wholesale and Retail dealers in
BOOTS, SHOES,
Trunks, Valises, Carpet Bags &c.,
No. 23 Main Street,
Opposite Taylor, Martin & Co.,
Norfolk, Va.
Full stock constantly on hand at
lowest Market Prices.
John H. FERRER, of Morganton, N. C.
mar. 28. 16-4t

C. F. GREENWOOD & CO.,
Watchmakers and Jewelers,
DEALERS IN
FINE GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES,
Diamonds, Pearl and other rich
Jewelry, Solid Silver and Plated Ware,
Spectacles, Clocks,
AND
Fancy Goods,
No. 27 Main Street,
Norfolk, Virginia.
N. B.—Watches and Jewelry repaired by
the most skillful workmen and warranted.
April 4. 1867. 18-4t

S. W. SELDNER,
39 Main Street,
NORFOLK, VA.
ESTABLISHED 1854.
Wholesale and Retail
Clothing and Merchant Tailor.
KEEPS CONSTANTLY ON HAND
one of the largest and best selected
stocks of Ready Made Clothing and
cut furnishing goods, also a fine assort-
ment of piece goods, which he is prepared
to make up to order in the latest and most
fashionable styles, a call is very respect-
fully requested.
S. W. SELDNER.
April 4, 1867. 18-4t

NORFOLK.

JNO. BURGESS & CO.,
Wholesale Grocers, Commission Mer-
chants, and Dealers in
Foreign and Domestic Liquors,
Norfolk, Va.
SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO
consignments and prompt returns
made.
Oct. 19. 41-6m

PETERS & REED,
General Commission, Shipping and
Forwarding Merchants,
Town Point, Norfolk, Va.,
Water Street, Portsmouth.
Oct. 10. 41-3m

W. HORNER,
(Successor to P. DILLWORTH.)
No. 1 Wide Water Street,
NORFOLK, VA.
WILL PAY THE HIGHEST MAR-
ket price for Cotton and Wooden
Rags, Rope, Paper, Metals, Bones, &c.
June 6, 1867. 27-4t

SMITH, ELLIOTT & CO.,
Grocers and Commission Merchants,
No. 12 Roanoke Square,
Norfolk, Va.
CONSIGNMENTS OF PRODUCE
and orders for Goods will receive
prompt attention. Bagging and Rope for-
warded.
Sept. 12. 40-4m

CHEEK, CAPEHART & CO.,
Grocers and Commission Merchants,
No. 35 Commerce Street,
Norfolk, Va.
A SUPPLY OF PURE Peruvian
Guano and other Fertilizers, Rope,
Bagging, Groceries and Liquors, kept con-
stantly on hand.
Sept. 5. 40-6m

TAYLOR, MARTIN & CO.,
DEALERS IN
Hardware, Cutlery,
BAR IRON AND STEEL,
WAGON MATERIAL,
BELTING AND PACKING,
House Furnishing Goods, &c.,
Circular Front, corner of Main Street and
Market Square,
Norfolk, Va.
Nails at Factory Price, True Chisels,
Weed, Hilling and Grub Hoes, Horse Col-
lars and Hames, Axes, Saws, &c., &c.
The trade supplied at Northern prices.
mar. 28. 16-4t

DAVIS & BROTHER,
Wholesale dealers in
GROCERIES, LIQUORS,
and Agents for Carolina Belle Scotch
Snuff, and various grades of
VIRGINIA MANUFACTURED
Tobacco.
KEEP CONSTANTLY ON HAND
a full stock of Sugar and Coffee,
Flour, Lard, Bacon, Candles, Family and
Fancy Soaps, Cheese, Butter, Fish, Pork,
Salt, Candy, Buckets, Brooms, Shot, Pow-
der, and many other articles, to complete
the assortment usually found in a Job-
bing Grocery House.
Any consignment will have special at-
tention.
No. 4 Rowland's Wharf,
Norfolk, Va.
ap. 25, 1867. 21-4t

EDWARD P. TABB & CO.,
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
HARDWARE, CUTLERY
AND
FANCY GOODS,
West Side Market Square,
Norfolk, Va.
Sign of the Anvil.
AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF OLD
Dominion Nails, Emery, Cotton Gin,
Boyle & Gambles Churner, Pitt and Co.
Saws, Warranted, Gun Belting, all sizes.
A large stock always on hand of Axes,
Spades, Shovels, Forks, Chain Traces,
Hollow Ware, Horse Collars, Rope.
Agents for Fairbanks & Co's Standard
Scales,
that will weigh a Gold Dollar or a Canal
Load Loaded.
A large stock of Queens Ware, China
and Glass. Attention of the trade re-
spectfully solicited.
mar. 28. 16-4t

G. H. BROWN with
T. M. ROBINSON & CO.,
General Commission and Shipping Mer-
chants,
WASHINGTON, N. C.
REFER TO
Col. D. M. Carter, Washington.
Judge P. E. Warren,
Col. W. B. Rodman,
R. Norfleet, Esq., Tarboro',
Willie Walston, Esq.,
Hon. George Howard,
Oct. 31. 47-6m

JOHN MYERS' SONS,
Commission Merchants,
Receiving and Forwarding
AGENTS
WASHINGTON, N. C.
April 4th, 1867. 18-4t

H. WISWALL & SON,
Commission Merchants,
and Wholesale and Retail dealers in
Groceries & General Merchandise,
MAIN STREET,
WASHINGTON, N. C.
Nov. 25. 1-4t

B. F. HAVENS,
General Commission Merchant,
WASHINGTON, N. C.
Strict personal attention will be given to
the receiving and shipping of all kinds of
produce.
dec 6 2-4t

Lumber! Lumber!
I WILL deliver all kinds of LUMBER to
any convenient point from my Mill, at
the shortest notice, and on reasonable
terms.
JO. BELL, W. J.
near Sparta, N. C.

Pen and Ink Sketches of the Living and the Dead.

BY HON. S. R. MALLORY.
JEFFERSON DAVIS.

Men in commanding positions, and mingling much with the world, readily acquire ease and repose of manner, and a control, more or less perfect, over their emotions; and especially over all manifestations of surprise; and we not unfrequently hear them say that they are "surprised at nothing."

This important defensive armor is habitually worn by Mr. Davis. Whether and when he acquired it, whether among his Indian friends of the frontier, or among Christian hypocrites, we know not, but he rarely goes without it. As chief of the Confederate States he could listen to the announcement of defeat without expecting victory, or to a foreign dispatch destructive to hopes long cherished, or to whispers that old friends were becoming cool or hostile, without exhibiting the slightest evi-

dence of feeling beyond a change of color, a tell tale which he could never entirely command; and yet his sensibilities are extremely accurate.

Under such circumstances, his language temperate and bland, his voice calm and gentle, and his whole person at rest, he presented the appearance of a man wearied and worn by care and labor, listening to something he knew all about that of one receiving ruinous disclosures. He fully understood and appreciated the evils resulting from a change in his eyes to each, and by a stern conscientiousness, and schooled by long mental discipline, his irascible and excitable nature rarely led him into inconsiderate action. Like an elegant, polished, highly-finished, well-poised, and well charged duelling pistol, whose hair trigger responds to the slightest touch, he could be very readily fired, but he never went off half-cocked. A look, a word—nay, his own reflections—may cause his color to change, his eyes to flash, and his form to tighten up rigidly; but his lips remain compressed until judgment opens them.

He is usually regarded as a ready man, prompt in reaching conclusions, and no less prompt in acting upon them; an estimate of his character which is probably derived from President Pierce, and disseminated by army people; and yet, by all who have ever been associated with him in public affairs, he is probably known to be singularly cautious, if not procrastinating in those respects.

As President of the Southern Confederacy, his zeal, industry, and patience in whatever he undertook were conspicuous; but he neither flattered with celebrity himself, nor aided others to do so for him. Whatever engaged his attention, however unimportant, was thoroughly and critically examined; and while, from his well-understood habit, his opinion upon matters which he had investigated commanded greater respect among his friends, they daily saw that affairs of moment were delayed, not only because he habitually undertook more labor than he could accomplish, but that much of his time was given to details.

Military life, in all its phases, had for him a peculiar charm; military affairs, however minute, rarely failed to attract his attention, and he was ever ready to be the claims of other matters upon it. No laborers of the War Office were too small for his attention, and appointments and promotions of officers, questions of rank, military law and usage, routine, &c., very often engrossed it, notwithstanding his entire confidence in the experience and judgment of Adjutant General Cooper upon all such subjects.

The amount of attention which he sometimes bestowed upon details that usually devolved upon subordinates surprised all who were familiar with his habits; and his exalted sense of justice, and his desire not only to be right but to set as to render it impossible to be wrong, were as visible in these as in matters of the first importance.

Letters from afflicted mothers, relieving their hearts by telling him of the virtues of sons just fallen in battle; complaints of friendless soldiers, demanding at his hands justice for wrongs inflicted by those in authority; applications for pardons or commutations of sentence for persons who had been released of conscripted husbands, or from farmers for the restoration of impressed stock, were in numerous instances read, their merits carefully considered, and responded to by him; and when the applicant for justice was evidently friendless, he rarely lost sight of the case, or devolved its adjustment upon others.

A vast amount of such business, which might well have been referred for final action to a bureau officer, and promptly dispatched, embarrassed his table and occupied his attention. It seemed impossible for him to resist appeals upon his time from friendless women or the wronged soldier; and whether they found him at his office, or in the midst of his family, they were heard patiently and answered kindly. With such habits, combined and methodical, labor with him was impracticable, though he worked unceasingly.

His Cabinet officers were in the habit of individually conferring with him almost daily, and he usually assembled them twice or three times a week for consultation. These meetings occupied from two to five hours longer than was required for the thorough examination and solution of the principles and chief features of current public measures and business; but from his tendency to digressions to epical questions, the amount of business accomplished was but little related to the time consumed; and not unfrequently a Cab-

inet meeting would exhaust four or five hours without determining anything, while the desk of every chief of a department was covered with papers demanding his attention.

If to Mr. Davis' unyielding will and energy, his truth and justice, his knowledge of men and public affairs, his patience and industry, his analytical mind and comprehensive judgment, were united the business habits of an active merchant or commercial law advocate, his ability and usefulness as the chief of a great enterprise or the head of a people would find few parallels in history.

Whether, with his peculiar mental and moral combination, his absorbing desire to attain an exact fitness, consistency, and correspondence in all that he attempts, his disposition to analyze and exhaust not only the probable but the possible arguments upon the subjects under consideration, any other training than that which he received could have taught him the just value and economy of time as an element in the affairs of this rapid age we are not prepared to say; but certain it is that the discipline of West Point, his training for the Indian frontier, his plantation, political and congressional life, were not the training for the purpose. So well was his habit with punctuality in meeting it was rarely expected from his engagements.

Though apparently cold and exclusive, Mr. Davis is naturally genial and sympathetic; and few men prove more attractive in private society. No man delighted more to relieve his forehead and mind by pleasant conversation upon general subjects—a taste which the seclusion of a Cabinet meeting and the presence of trusted friends prompted him frequently to gratify; and upon such occasions, aided by the inspiration of a good glass, rambling pleasantly over other fields than those of public affairs, his conversational manner were extremely engaging. His extensive reading and retentive memory, his accurate observation and acquaintance with the distinguished men of the backwoodsman's hut to the halls of Senators and Cabinets, were never at fault for striking illustrations of every subject presented. Experiences in the war, on the great plains, and in Mexico; life, civilized and savage, from the Indian's lodge to the salons of fashion; sympathy with the poor humble, a familiarity with the rich and great, had stored his mind with a vast fund of useful knowledge, brightly, information and amusing anecdote, which a genial nature, a ready perception of humor, rare powers of imitation, and a voice full of pleasant inflections, so presented that he could be in his society at such times without deriving pleasure and information.

He is a good judge of men; and from indications which often escape the observations of others he frequently determines the general designs of those with whom he is brought into contact before they have had time to become reserved. His knowledge of the habits of men in different walks of life, their modes of thought and expression, and particularity of language, are remarkable; and enables him to bring himself at once to the level of those with whom he converses, to use their own familiar phrases and figures, and to be thoroughly at home with them—adapting his style of conversation to make men communicative. In conversing with an intelligent English gentleman upon the history, laws, literature, constitution, or public men of Great Britain, the purity and elegance of his language, no less than the accuracy and extent of his information, never failed to surprise; while men reared in our western or southwestern States, upon the frontier, or upon the Mississippi, were ever glad to talk with him, not only because his knowledge was equal to theirs, but because his language, his images, and metaphors were their own.

He was a favorite with all children, whom he never failed to interest; and his own regarded him as their pleasantest playmate.

Mr. Davis' relations with the members of Congress from and after the first year of the war were not what the interests of the country required. Details upon this subject we will not give; but, in justice to him, it is proper to say that if coldness, misunderstandings, or misrepresentations frequently clouded his intercourse with them it was not because he was not ardently urging the prosecution of the war with the utmost vigor. In a body so large as that comprising both Houses of Congress there are found, of course, some men with whom public well-being is mingled with selfish considerations. A wound to their self-esteem told upon their action in public affairs, and Mr. Davis' in this respect towards them, real or imaginary, were seen in their votes and speeches.

His business office, and the one in which he assembled his Cabinet, was a small room in the Treasury at Richmond, not exceeding twenty-four by eighteen feet in length and breadth, furnished with a plain writing table and a few chairs, and its walls covered with maps. A messenger at the closed door received and delivered the cards or messages of visitors; and immediately opposite this door, and only some six feet from it was the office of the four generations composing his personal staff, whose intercourse with him was unrestricted, and one or two of whom were always in attendance. A portion of every morning was given to visitors, and many called, by special appointment, at other hours. To all who came upon public business, to increase the army, create supplies, or to advance the success of the war, he listened with attention, and was ever ready to receive their views; but the proposition of these to the number who came with personal or selfish objects, or with "axes to grind," was small; and to those whose impatience was frequently irrepressible.

Men in high official positions, compelled at times to listen to all who may choose to call upon them, very soon discover that not only is self-interest too often the object of those who crowd their reception rooms to the delay of the public business, but that in their eager pursuit of it, impudence, ignorance, and conceit, are but thinly disguised under pretension of patriotism. A few years of such experience of human nature impress a peculiar stamp upon a man's feelings and demeanor in his intercourse with his fellows; and however unsuspicious and sympathetic may have been his nature upon the assumption of his office, he leaves it with his estimate of mankind materially changed; and he detects himself suspecting a "cloak" and peering about for the "axe" whenever "patriotic" approach him.

Mr. Davis' manner of receiving visitors at times showed that he had had much experience in public office. Few men could be more chillingly, freely, and cold. Those who came without special appointment or business usually found him engaged with a mass of manuscript papers before him, telling as plainly of his occupation as his formal and scanty courtesy did of the importance of his time and his sense of its interruption. There was no waste of words, no ignoring of his pre-occupation, few generalities; and, in spite of many causes of self-compassion, sensible men soon left, they knew not exactly why that it was wrong to engross his time if they could, while those who were convinced that they could not engross it if they would; and their stay was generally brief, his face yielding its only approach to a smile when he saw them depart.

I have said that his relations with members of Congress were not what they should have been; nor were they what they might have been. Towards those who towards the world generally, he was his personal opinion very openly. Position and opportunity presented him every means of cultivating the personal good-will of members by little acts of attention, courtesy, or deference, which no man, however high in position, who has to work by means of his fellows, can dispense with. Great minds can, in spite of the abundance of these demonstrations towards them in a leader—any man is the face of respect or apparent deference—go on steadily and bravely with a single eye to the public welfare; but the number of these in comparison to those who are more or less governed by personal considerations in the discharge of their public duties is small. While he was ever frank and cordial to his friends, and to all whom he believed to be embarked heart and soul in the cause of southern independence, he would not, and we think could not, sacrifice a smile, an inflection of the voice, or a demonstration of attention to flatter the self-love of any man in or out of Congress who did not stand in this relation. Acting himself for the public welfare, regardless of self or opinion of others, he placed too high a value upon the thousand nameless influences by which he might have brought others up, apparently, to his own high level standard. The members of Congress who had to see him on business, and who had to see him on business, frequently complained of his ungovernable temper, in their society, and in the public office, called upon for large plans, suggestions, or laws on the conduct of the war, often present matters upon which he had very carefully considered, and for which he alone was responsible.

Often, in such cases, though he listened to all they had to say, why, for example, some man should be made a brigadier, major, or lieutenant-general, or placed at the head of an army, &c., and in return calmly and precisely stated his reasons against the measure, he at times failed to satisfy or convince them, simply because in his manner and language combined there was just an indelible something which offended their self-esteem. Some of his best friends left him at times with feelings bordering closely upon indignation, this cause, and with a determination, hastily formed, of calling no more upon him; and some of the most sensible and patriotic men of both Houses were alienated from him more or less from this cause. The counsel of judgment friends upon this subject, and as to more untroubled intercourse between him and the members of the Senate and House, was vainly exerted. His mainly, fearless, true, and noble nature turned from what to him were the faintest approach to seeking popularity, and he seemed to believe it or imaginary, were seen in their votes and speeches.

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Men in high official positions, compelled at times to listen to all who may choose to call upon them, very soon discover that not only is self-interest too often the object of those who crowd their reception rooms to the delay of the public business, but that in their eager pursuit of it, impudence, ignorance, and conceit, are but thinly disguised under pretension of patriotism. A few years of such experience of human nature impress a peculiar stamp upon a man's feelings and demeanor in his intercourse with his fellows; and however unsuspicious and sympathetic may have been his nature upon the assumption of his office, he leaves it with his estimate of mankind materially changed; and he detects himself suspecting a "cloak" and peering about for the "axe" whenever "patriotic" approach him.

Mr. Davis' manner of receiving visitors at times showed that he had had much experience in public office. Few men could be more chillingly, freely, and cold. Those who came without special appointment or business usually found him engaged with a mass of manuscript papers before him, telling as plainly of his occupation as his formal and scanty courtesy did of the importance of his time and his sense of its interruption. There was no waste of words, no ignoring of his pre-occupation, few generalities; and, in spite of many causes of self-compassion, sensible men soon left, they knew not exactly why that it was wrong to engross his time if they could, while those who were convinced that they could not engross it if they would; and their stay was generally brief, his face yielding its only approach to a smile when he saw them depart.

I have said that his relations with members of Congress were not what they should have been; nor were they what they might have been. Towards those who towards the world generally, he was his personal opinion very openly. Position and opportunity presented him every means of cultivating the personal good-will of members by little acts of attention, courtesy, or deference, which no man, however high in position, who has to work by means of his fellows, can dispense with. Great minds can, in spite of the abundance of these demonstrations towards them in a leader—any man is the face of respect or apparent deference—go on steadily and bravely with a single eye to the public welfare; but the number of these in comparison to those who are more or less governed by personal considerations in the discharge of their public duties is small. While he was ever frank and cordial to his friends, and to all whom he believed to be embarked heart and soul in the cause of southern independence, he would not, and we think could not, sacrifice a smile, an inflection of the voice, or a demonstration of attention to flatter the self-love of any man in or out of Congress who did not stand in this relation. Acting himself for the public welfare, regardless of self or opinion of others, he placed too high a value upon the thousand nameless influences by which he might have brought others up, apparently, to his own high level standard. The members of Congress who had to see him on business, and who had to see him on business, frequently complained of his ungovernable temper, in their society, and in the public office, called upon for large plans, suggestions, or laws on the conduct of the war, often present matters upon which he had very carefully considered, and for which he alone was responsible.

Often, in such cases, though he listened to all they had to say, why, for example, some man should be made a brigadier, major, or lieutenant-general, or placed at the head of an army, &c., and in return calmly and precisely stated his reasons against the measure, he at times failed to satisfy or convince them, simply because in his manner and language combined there was just an indelible something which offended their self-esteem. Some of his best friends left him at times with feelings bordering closely upon indignation, this cause, and with a determination, hastily formed, of calling no more upon him; and some of the most sensible and patriotic men of both Houses were alienated from him more or less from this cause. The counsel of judgment friends upon this subject, and as to more untroubled intercourse between him and the members of the Senate and House, was vainly exerted. His mainly, fearless, true, and noble nature turned from what to him were the faintest approach to seeking popularity, and he seemed to believe it or imaginary, were seen in their votes and speeches.

His business office, and the one in which he assembled his Cabinet, was a small room in the Treasury at Richmond, not exceeding twenty-four by eighteen feet in length and breadth, furnished with a plain writing table and a few chairs, and its walls covered with maps. A messenger at the closed door received and delivered the cards or messages of visitors; and immediately opposite this door, and only some six feet from it was the office of the four generations composing his personal staff, whose intercourse with him was unrestricted, and one or two of whom were always in attendance. A portion of every morning was given to visitors, and many called, by special appointment, at other hours. To all who came upon public business, to increase the army, create supplies, or to advance the success of the war, he listened with attention, and was ever ready to receive their views; but the proposition of these to the number who came with personal or selfish objects, or with "axes to grind," was small; and to those whose impatience was frequently irrepressible.

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